

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 254508  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-07 INRE-00  
/062 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:LPFEIFLE:CFC  
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY  
ARA/CEN:WMATTHEWS  
ARA:TATODMAN  
P:PCHABIB  
S/S - PTARNOFF  
-----104028 221643Z /43

O R 221613Z OCT 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMCONSUL BELIZE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 254508

FOR ANDREWS FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, BH, UK, GT

SUBJECT: BELIZE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 251244

1. THE BRITISH ON OCTOBER 21 INSTRUCTED THEIR CONSUL IN  
GUATEMALA TO TELL FOREIGN MINISTER MOLINA THAT FOREIGN  
SECRETARY OWEN AGREES "THAT EARLY FURTHER TALKS ARE  
DESIRABLE" PROVIDED, "THEY ARE ON THE BASIS OF THE  
PARAMETERS WHICH OWEN DESCRIBED TO MOLINA IN NEW  
YORK, I.E. CESSION OF TERRITORY UP TO THE MOHO RIVER

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(ALONG AGUACATE CREEK, BUT EXCLUDING THE ADDITIONAL  
TRIANGLE FROM ORANGE POINT), SOMETHING ON THE CAYS  
AND MARITIME FRONTIERS, PLUS A JOINT DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT." THE CONSUL IS TO REMIND MOLINA THAT "ANY  
PROPOSALS FOR A SETTLEMENT WILL HAVE TO BE ACCEPTABLE  
TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF BELIZE. IT WILL BE  
EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO GET PRICE TO ACCEPT A SETTLEMENT

ON THE ABOVE BASIS AND IT IS ABSOLUTELY AS MUCH AS WE CAN AGREE TO PUT TO HIM. THE ALTERNATIVE AS I (OWEN) TOLD MOLINA IN NEW YORK, WOULD BE FOR US TO START THINKING ABOUT INDEPENDENCE FOR BELIZE BY OTHER MEANS."

2. FYI: IF THE GUATEMALANS AGREE TO TALK ON THIS BASIS, THE BRITISH ARE PREPARED TO BEGIN TALKS NOVEMBER 1, PROBABLY IN WASHINGTON.

3. PLEASE SEE MOLINA AND GIVE HIM THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE: PHIL HABIB WAS IN LONDON EARLIER THIS WEEK ON OTHER BUSINESS. THERE HE SPOKE TO FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN AND TO HUGH CORTAZZI ON BELIZE. ON THE BASIS OF THESE TALKS, I REMAIN CONVINCED THAT THE BRITISH HAVE GONE AS FAR AS IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THEM; INDEED THEY MAY ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTIES CONVINCING PRICE TO GO ALONG WITH EVEN THIS PROPOSAL. THUS WE BELIEVE GUATEMALA SHOULD GIVE VERY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO THE BRITISH PROPOSAL. BEST REGARDS. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Subject:** BELIZE NEGOTIATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, BH, UK, GT  
**To:** GUATEMALA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009